



Senate

General Assembly

February Session, 2006

File No. 335

Senate Bill No. 404

Senate, April 4, 2006

The Committee on Government Administration and Elections reported through SEN. DEFRONZO of the 6th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING LATE MAIL-IN VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (d) of section 9-23g of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective from*
3 *passage*):

4 (d) (1) Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the
5 privileges of an elector for any applicant for admission under this
6 section and section 9-23h, as amended, shall attach immediately upon
7 approval by the registrar, and the registrars shall enter the name of the
8 elector on the registry list.

9 (2) Except as provided in subdivision (3) of this subsection, if a
10 mailed application is postmarked, or if a delivered application is
11 received in the office of the registrars of voters, after the fourteenth day
12 before an election or after the fifth day before a primary, the privileges
13 of an elector shall not attach until the day after such election or

14 primary, as the case may be. In such event, the registrars of voters may
 15 cause such applicant to be contacted, either by telephone or mail, in
 16 order to inform such applicant of the effect of such late received mail-
 17 in application and any applicable deadline for applying for admission
 18 in person.

19 (3) If an application is received after the fourteenth day before an
 20 election or after the fifth day before a primary by the Commissioner of
 21 Motor Vehicles or by a voter registration agency, the privileges of an
 22 elector shall not attach until the day after the election or primary, as
 23 the case may be, or on the day the registrar approves it, whichever is
 24 later.

25 (4) If on the day of an election or primary, the name of an applicant
 26 does not appear on the official check list, such applicant may present
 27 to the moderator at the polls either a notice of acceptance received
 28 through the mail or an application receipt that was previously
 29 provided to the applicant pursuant to section 9-19e, subsection (b) of
 30 section 9-19h, subsection (b) of this section or section 9-23n. If an
 31 applicant presents said notice or receipt, and either the registrars of
 32 voters find the original application or the applicant submits a new
 33 application at the polls, the registrar, or assistant registrar upon notice
 34 to and approval by the registrar, shall add such person's name and
 35 address to the official check list on such day and the person shall be
 36 allowed to vote if otherwise eligible to vote and the person presents to
 37 the checkers at the polling place a preprinted form of identification
 38 pursuant to subparagraph (A) of subdivision (2) of subsection (a) of
 39 section 9-261.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
Section 1	from passage	9-23g(d)

GAE *Joint Favorable*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either House thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact:

Municipalities	Effect	FY 07 \$	FY 08 \$
Various Municipalities	Cost	Potential Minimal	Potential Minimal

Explanation

This bill, which allows registrars of voters to contact persons who apply late for admission as an elector by mail to inform them of their right to apply for admission in person, could result in a potential cost to those municipalities that wish to make contact via phone or mail to notify these individuals. Municipalities may incur postage costs or expenses for temporary personnel to accommodate this need. These costs are estimated to be minimal.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR BILL ANALYSIS
SB 404***AN ACT CONCERNING LATE MAIL-IN VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill allows registrars of voters to contact, by telephone or mail, people whose mail-in voter registration applications do not meet the deadline for admission to vote in the next election or primary. Under the bill, registrars may notify such people of the deadline for applying in person. By law, an applicant may be eligible to vote by applying in person up to seven days before an election or, with one exception, 12 o'clock noon on the last business day before a primary. The law prohibits an affiliated voter who erases his name from one party's registration list or transfers to another's during the three months preceding a primary from voting for any party in that primary.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Upon passage

BACKGROUND***Mail-In Voter Registration Deadlines***

By law, a mail-in voter registration application must be postmarked or hand-delivered to the office of the registrars no later than the 14th day before an election or the 5th day before a primary for the applicant to be eligible to vote in the next election or primary, whichever is applicable.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Government Administration and Elections Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 18 Nay 0 (03/17/2006)